

## SS2WK2 2<sup>nd</sup> term lesson note.

### Topic: Methods of rangeland improvement

Rangeland improvement means those practices needed to be done continuously in order to supply grasses and legumes in correct quantity.

### Some practice/ methods for proper improvement of rangeland.

- 1) Controlled stocking.
- 2) Re seeding.
- 3) Use of fertilizer.
- 4) Paddock/ Rotational grazing.
- 5) Weeds control.
- 6) Pests and diseases control
- 7) Irrigation.

### Explanation of each method.

- 1) **Controlled stocking:** Is a case whereby the correct number of animals are allowed to graze at a particular area of rangeland in order not to be exhausted.
- 2) **Re seeding:** It involves replanting of forage crops on a bald land where farm animals have grazed a lot on a rangeland, reseeding becomes necessary.
- 3) **Use of fertilizer application:** Fertilizer is needed to be applied to ensure enough foliage formation. Eg NPK.
- 4) **Paddock:** Here rangeland should be divided into smaller units and the animals will graze on them in circular manner unit by unit. This ensures the regrowth of the rangeland. Sometimes, farmers may cut forage for hay and silage from the resting rangeland.
- 5) **Irrigation:** Rangeland should be irrigated during dry season to maintain continuous supplying of forage crops year in year out etc.

## LESSON TWO.

### Topic: Factors affecting the level of herbage production in Rangeland.

Factors affecting the level of herbage production in rangeland means those things that either their excessively supplied or undersupplied may hinder having quality and quantity rangeland for our livestock's. These factors includes:

- I) Rainfall.
- II) Grazing pattern.
- III) Diseases and pests.
- IV) Weeds.
- V) Soil fertility.

### Explanation.

- 1) **Rainfall:** Without rainfall the new forage crops will not regenerate. So adequate rainfall will make proper growth of the forage crops.

- 2) **Grazing pattern:** Overgrazing and overstocking should be avoided while rotational grazing should be encouraged.
- 3) **Disease and pests:** This reduces the yield of forage and render them unpalatable.
- 4) **Weeds control:** weeds should be removed since they compete with the forage crops for nutrients, water, space etc.
- 5) **Soil fertility:** Unfertilized soil reduces the quantity and quality of forage crops in rangeland.